

1. What is being done about Thanksgiving observances and leave for the military personnel involved in the Cuban Crisis?

a. Navy and Marines: Immediately with the termination of the quarantine, Navy ships began movement directly to home ports or leave ports where they will grant Thanksgiving Day liberty for maximum numbers of the crew. This same applies to the few Marines aboard the Naval operational vessels. Marines at Guantanamo will have Thanksgiving dinner but are still maintained on alert.

b. Army and Air Force units in Southeastern United States: A relaxed alert condition except for air defense and reconnaissance units will be in effect on Thanksgiving permitting passes. At the present time, the Joint Chiefs of Staff are discussing how to bring about termination of alert status in an orderly manner.

2. What entertainment is being provided for the troops in Guantanamo for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's?

Defense Department is at the present time giving priority to planning USO and big name entertainment for the Guantanamo personnel during these holiday seasons. The Perry Como show is tentatively engaged. The Secretary of the Navy is having Thanksgiving dinner with the Guantanamo personnel.

3. When will the Air Force Reserves be released?

a. The Secretary of Defense today authorized the Secretary of the Air Force to release Air Force Reserves from active duty. The reserve units have been called to active duty and maintained at home bases. Processing for release begins Friday, November 23. The Air Force expects all Reservists to be out within five days after the 23rd of November.

b. The Secretary of Defense today authorized the Secretary of the Navy to terminate extensions of those people involuntarily extended on active duty for the Cuban Crisis. Many of the Navy and Marines affected are aboard ships or overseas. The Secretary of Defense has ordered that all of these will be released no later than Christmas.